Minutes

Joint Legislative Program Evaluation Oversight Committee Meeting
March 14, 2016

Members Present

Senator Fletcher Hartsell, Chair Senator Don Davis Senator Valeria Foushee Senator Ralph Hise Senator Louis Pate Senator Shirley Randleman

Representative Craig Horn Representative Nelson Dollar Representative Pat Hurley Representative Marvin Lucas Representative Ted Davis Representative Rena Turner

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Advisory Members

Senator Rick Gunn Senator Joyce Krawiec

Call to Order

Representative Craig Horn, Chair, called the meeting to order.

Senator Ralph Hise moved to approve the February 8, 2016 Minutes. Motion carried.

Presentations and Comments

Representative Horn recognized Kiernan McGorty, Principal Program Evaluator, to present the PED report, Opportunities Exist to Increase the Accountability and Independence of the Board of Review. The General Assembly created the Board of Review to hear higher authority appeals in unemployment compensation cases. After discussion, Senator Hise moved to instruct staff to draft legislation based on this report; confer with OSBM to determine if attorney and support positions and funds could be transferred as PED recommended from the Division of Unemployment to the Board of Review; and refer the report to the Administrative Procedure Oversight Committee. Motion carried.

Representative Horn recognized Representative Ted Davis, Chair, Subcommittee on Economic Development Tiers, to present the Subcommittee's report and recommendations. Representative Davis explained differences between the two versions of draft legislation to implement the PED report on economic tiers. The first version tracked the PED recommendations. The subcommittee's recommended version included modifications to Commission membership to add the president of Golden Leaf, specifically adding the Department of Revenue to entities required to eliminate use of the tier structure and encouraging legislative leaders to appoint committee members who come from the most distressed areas; eliminating the tier structure as of January 1, 2017 for economic development purposes and replacing it with an index system; using modified factors to measure distress; and conforming statutory changes for economic development programs to account for the elimination of the tier structure. Representative Davis moved to have the subcommittee's recommended draft legislation referred to the Joint Legislative Economic Development and Global Engagement Oversight Committee (EDGE) for consideration at its next committee meeting. Representative Rena Turner seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Senator Hise asked Chairs if referral to EDGE meant that the full JLPEOC would not be able to review or recommend anything disapproved by EDGE, changed by EDGE, or in the event EDGE took no action. Senator Hartsell responded that the JLPEOC and EDGE are acting independently and that neither EDGE nor JLPEOC were bound by the other committee's actions or inaction. Senator Hise moved to amend the Ted Davis motion by stating that JLPEOC was tentatively approving the subcommittee's recommended legislation. JLPEOC will review the matter again at the April 11 JLPEOC meeting with the option of recommending legislation that may differ from any EDGE version and could include either the first version of the bill draft that tracked PED recommendations and the subcommittee's draft or even another version altogether. Motion as amended carried.

Adjournment

With no further business, the committee adjourned to meet again March 14, 2016.

Senate Chair, Senator Fletcher Hartsell

House Chair, Representative Craig Horn